



**COUNTY OF PLACER
FISH & GAME COMMISSION**

**Ed King
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
County Contact**

FISH & GAME COMMISSION MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1 Don Gould	DISTRICT 2 Mark Fowler
DISTRICT 3 Gregg McKenzie	DISTRICT 4 Gary Flanagan
DISTRICT 6 Kari Freidig	DISTRICT 7 Marc Wyatt
DISTRICT 5 Mickey Daniels	

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**PLACER COUNTY
FISH & GAME COMMISSION
MINUTES**

TIME/DATE: 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, September 23, 2015
LOCATION: PLACER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ROOM
Community Development Resource Agency, DeWitt Center, Auburn
3091 County Center Drive (corner of Bell Road and Richardson
Drive)

The Placer County Fish & Game Commission is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in its public meetings. If you are hearing impaired, we have listening devices available. If you require additional disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Recording Secretary at (530) 889-7372. If requested, the agenda shall be provided in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. All requests must be received at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which you are requesting accommodation. Requests received after such time will be accommodated only if time permits.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Marc Wyatt
- II. **ROLL CALL**
Present: Daniels, Gould, McKenzie, Wyatt, Flanagan, Freidig
Absent: Fowler
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA for September 23, 2015 and APPROVAL OF MINUTES for August 26, 2015**
Agenda: Flanagan/Daniels/MPUV
Minutes: Freidig/Gould/MPUV
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Fish & Game Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than five (5) minutes. ***No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment***
N/A
- V. **FINANCIAL REPORT** – Ed King
FY 14/15 expenditures through August 31 totaled \$846.23 including \$390.00 in commissioner's fees, \$388.14 in mileage reimbursement, and \$67.50 for media services.

Revenues through August 31, totaled \$71.90, including \$30.31 in fines, \$18.19 in penalty assessments and \$23.40 in interest.

VI. AGENCY REPORTS

A. Commission Updates

Freidig reported that Ben Ransom of PCWA might be able to come to the November or December meeting and asked that the Commission firm up the meeting dates for those months. Freidig also was able to contact Bass Pro Shop's manager Dan Duggar, who stated he can speak to the Commission in October. Freidig pointed out that a recent article in the Sacramento Bee about Hemphill Dam mentioned that the Placer County DA's office stated that there was an investigation underway. Freidig also encouraged the other commissioners to seek projects within their district and to speak to their respective District Supervisors to find projects to support.

Flanagan reported that he attempted twice to contact Rem Scherzinger of NID for an action timeline on Hemphill Dam and got no reply. He stated that after the second call, Ed King contacted him to report that Scherzinger will not be providing a current timeline as requested because the Placer DA requested a meeting on the matter with NID. Flanagan stated that he notified Tina Bartlett at CDFW, who said she has not received a timeline and was disappointed. Flanagan stated that Bartlett told him that NID had submitted an application for a Proposition 1 grant request in order to hire a consultant to study current conditions of Auburn Ravine.

Flanagan also reported that Bartlett asked him if he had heard about the status of the water rights protest, and Flanagan stated that he had contacted Alan Eberhart, Foothills Water Network representative, for more information. Flanagan stated that Sue Sindt had put together a report listing items that NID could agree on, things NID was willing to negotiate on, and things NID would not budge on; however, Sindt is out of town and Eberhart was not prepared to share the information.

Flanagan recalled that Bartlett, when she presented to the Commission in August, stated that one of the reasons CDFW won't authorize a salmon transfer at Hemphill Dam is because they tried to perform one at Butte Creek, which was unsuccessful. Flanagan presented a copy of a press release, dated May 7, 2015 from CDFW, entitled *Diverse Coalition Negotiating Historic Venture to Reintroduce Salmon to Sierra*. The press release quotes CDFW Director Charlton Bonham as saying, "this initiative is an ambitious undertaking to restore spring-run Chinook and steelhead to miles of historic pristine habitat in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This long-term experiment has been successful in several Pacific Northwest states and we hope for a similar outcome in California. A project of this importance wouldn't be possible without a robust partnership, and considering the state's unprecedented drought, it couldn't be happening at a more crucial time for these fish." Flanagan stated that the only difference

between this project and the Hemphill project was that Hemphill wouldn't cost CDFW anything. Flanagan stated he didn't appreciate Bartlett lying to the Commission.

1. State Wildlife Conservation Board Subcommittee – Gregg McKenzie
McKenzie reported that nothing is happening regarding Placer County this month, but that the Subcommittee is having a teleconference regarding the San Joaquin Fish Hatchery public access plan.

2. State Fish & Game Commission Subcommittee – Mark Fowler
Commissioner Fowler was not present.

B. California Department of Fish & Wildlife - Lt. John Lawson
Lt. Lawson was not present

C. Nevada Irrigation District & Placer County Water Agency Reports

SEPTEMBER 2015 PCWA Report – Ben Ransom

French Meadows is at 5,176' (41,958 AF)

Hell Hole is at 4,461' (56,053 AF)

Whitewater boating releases downstream of Oxbow Powerhouse will be made on Saturdays September 19th and 26th and then will not resume until Memorial Day weekend 2016.

The Middle Fork Project begins its annual maintenance outage on September 29. Flows will generally be lower than normal below Oxbow/Ralston Afterbay and higher than normal in the Rubicon River into early November.

Folsom Reservoir is currently at 363' (184,000 AF) and is projected to be at 353' (149,000 AF) by the end of October.

AUGUST 2015 PCWA Report – Ben Ransom

French Meadows is at 5,183' (47,405 ac-ft of storage), McGuire Boat Ramp area on north shore is closed to boat launching, French Meadows ramp area remains open.

Hell Hole is at 4,481' (69,820 ac-ft of storage), we've heard the ramp area may be too soft to launch trailered boats.

Whitewater boating releases downstream of Oxbow Powerhouse will be made Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Labor Day weekend and Saturdays in September (after Labor Day)

Folsom Reservoir is currently at 371' (218,000 ac-ft of storage) and is projected to be at 358' (165,000 ac-ft) end of September

Estimated campground closure dates (determined by USFS):

Hell Hole – October 19

Middle Meadows – October 13

Big Meadows – Remains closed due to King Fire remediation

French Meadows – October 13; one loop may remain open without water service

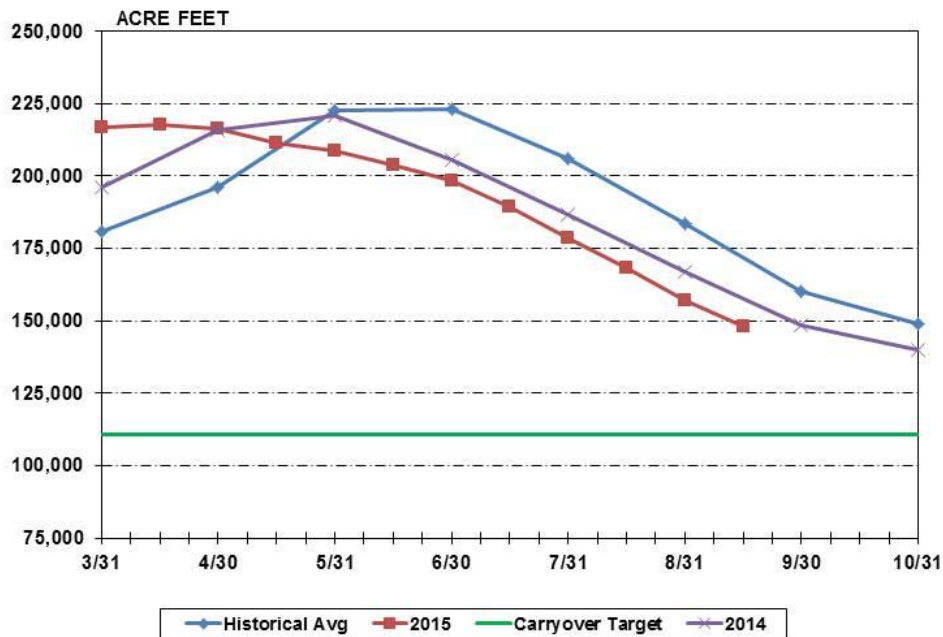
Lewis - September 13

Group sites @ French Meadows – September 13

SEPTEMBER NID Report – Sue Sindt

NID storage is at 146,865 AF; 85% of average for mid-Sept. Treated Customer conservation remains about 35% and around 10% for Ag.

2015 Reservoir Storage



NON-ACTION ITEMS

VII. Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council – Program History and Transfer of Properties into Conservation in Placer County – Jessica Daugherty, Assistant Director, Placer Land Trust

- **Placer Land Trust's Mission**

- Placer Land Trust works with willing landowners and conservation partners to permanently protect Placer County's natural and agricultural lands for future generations.

- **Stewardship Council Mission**
 - To protect and enhance PG&E's watershed lands and uses
 - As part of the PG&E Settlement Agreement and Stipulation in 2003, a Land Conservation Commitment was established to permanently protect PG&E watershed lands
 - Stewardship Council formed to develop and implement plan to permanently protect lands and maintain and improve public access
- **Stewardship Council 18-member board**
 - Assoc. of California Water Agencies
 - CA Department of Fish & Wildlife
 - CA Farm Bureau
 - CA Forestry Association
 - CA Hydropower Reform Coalition
 - CA Public Utilities Commission
 - Division of Ratepayer Advocates
 - CA Resources Agency
- **PG&E Watershed Lands**
 - 140,000 acres of land
 - 1,000 parcels located across 21 counties
 - Grouped into 47 planning units within 9 watershed areas
- **Requirements of the settlement**
 - Donated to qualified public agencies, non-profits or tribes
 - Conservation Easement
 - Or retained by PGE with a conservation easement
- **Local land protection**
 - Approximately 6,000 acres in Placer County in the Yuba Bear Planning Unit
 - Beneficial Public Values:
 - Outdoor Recreation
 - Historical and Cultural Resources
 - Natural habitat
 - Open Space
 - Sustainable Forestry
 - Agriculture Uses

Daugherty explained that PG&E will retain a lot of land in Bear Valley because their facilities are already there, or the hydrologic and geologic instability of the sites is such that they need to retain oversight. Daugherty also mentioned that funds are available from the settlement for restoration and enhancement work, and money may be available for Placer County Agriculture's weed remediation work. Daugherty stated that the Stewardship Council determined jurisdiction over

the river areas by who had better access. Although the land apportionment is technically closed, many non-profits who had originally applied found that they no longer wanted the land or were unable to do with the land what they wanted, and withdrew. The Stewardship Council is looking for new candidates, but Daugherty warns there are use limitations, applicants must also work with PG&E's requirements and the limits of the actual landowner, and they must consider the best use of the land; and nonprofits interested must be eligible to hold a conservation easement through the IRS. McKenzie was not sure whether hunting would be allowed because of safety issues. Daugherty stated that each county will receive a lump-sum payment from the settlement to cover property taxes.

VIII. Next meeting and future agenda items

Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at 6:00 PM

IX. Adjournment

7:15 PM